

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

COMSIXTHFLT

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FLOS, GR, TU

SUBJECT: REACTION TO AEGEAN DISPUTE DEVELOPMENTS

REF: ATHENS 8642

1. A NOTE OF EXPECTANCY AND RESTRAINED OPTIMISM THAT A
FORMULA HAS BEEN DEVISED IN NEW YORK WHICH MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE
TO BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY WAS CONTAINED IN MOST MEDIA
TREATMENT TODAY (AUGUST 20) ON THE LEAD STORY OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC) DEBATE ON THE AEGEAN DISPUTE.

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BASED LARGELY ON REPORTING FROM NEW YORK, THE COVERAGE

INDICATED THAT A NEW DRAFT RESOLUTION HAD BEEN FORMULATED DUE TO THE EFFORTS OF THE U.S., BRITAIN, FRANCE AND ITALY. THE RESOLUTION WAS SAID TO COUNSEL RESTRAINT BY BOTH SIDES, TO URGE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THEM ON THEIR DIFFERENCES AND TO MENTION THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) AS A MEANS OF RESOLVING OUTSTANDING ISSUES. AS PRESENTED IN MOST OF THE MEDIA, THE DRAFT IS NOT IDEAL FROM THE GREEK POINT OF VIEW BUT IT DOES CONTAIN MANY ELEMENTS FAVORABLE TO GREECE. TURKISH ATTEMPTS TO FILLIBUSTER AND TO HEAD OFF A UNSC RESOLUTION HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL, THE PRESS INDICATED, AND, SHOULD THE DRAFT RESOLUTION PROVE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL RECONVENE TO APPROVE IT EITHER TODAY OR TOMORROW.

2. THE CRITICISM OF THE U.S. FOR ITS SUPPOSED PRO-TURKISH STANCE IN THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES ACTIVITIES AT THE UNSC SUBSIDED SOMEWHAT, ALTHOUGH COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE EXTERIOR'S RIZOSPATIS' HEADLINE AND OPPOSITION LIBERAL TO VIMA'S EDITORIAL, FOR EXAMPLE, CONTINUED TO ASSAIL THE U.S. AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. IN THIS REGARD, A GOG SOURCE MADE A PUBLIC COMMENT YESTERDAY, CARRIED IN ALL THE PRESS TODAY, STARTING: "WITH REGARD TO THE CONSULTATIONS BEING HELD IN THE UNITED NATIONS, INACCURATE REPORTS ARE BEING WRITTEN, OBVIOUSLY OUT OF IGNORANCE, ESPECIALLY REGARDING THE STAND OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. THESE REPORTS ARE NOT ONLY UNFAIR, BUT MAY ALSO JEOPARDIZE THE HANDLING OF THE NATIONAL AFFAIR."

3. ITEMS RELATED TO THE AEGEAN ISSUE RECEIVING ATTENTION WERE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PRESTIGIOUS COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION REPRESENTING GRECE AT THE ICJ HEARING NEXT WEEK (SEPTEL) AND SPECULATION THAT THE COURT'S OPINION ON GREECE'S REQUEST FOR IN INJUNCTION ON FURTHER EXPLORATIONS IN THE AEGEAN MIGHT BEFORTHCOMING IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, WHEREAS IT WAS NOTED THAT A RULING ON THE BROADER ISSUE OF DEFINING THE CONTINENTAL SHELF MIGHT TAKE A CONSIDERABLY LONGER PERIOD. THE SAILING OF THE SISMIL I AND REPORTS ABOUT ADDITIONAL FUTURE TRIPS BY THE VESSEL ARE PLAYED WIDELY BY THE PRESS, AS IS THE PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY BY TURKISH PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL IN WHICH, AMONG OTHER ITEMS, HE RE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PORTEDLY CAST DOUBT ON THE LEGITIMACY OF GREEK CLAIMS TO THE DODECANESE ISLANDS AND CALLED FOR THEIR DEMILITARIZATION. TWO AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS COVERED THE MESSAGE SENT BY DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CARTER TO THE GREEK-AMERICAN AHEPA ORGANIZATION, AND A PUBLIC NOTICE BY THE LOCAL SHELL-HELLAS CLARIFYING THAT EXPLORATION LICENSES ISSUED TO THE PARENT SHELL COMPANY BY THE GOT FOR PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IN THE AEGEAN WERE CONFINED ONLY TO TURKISH TERRITORIAL WATERS WAS ACCORDED MENTION

IN ALL THE DAILIES. FINALLY THE PRESS YESTERDAY HAD REPORTED
ON THE FINE IMPOSED ON A GREEK FISHING VESSEL BY A BOSTON
COURT FOR FISHING OVER THE U.S. CONTINENTAL SHELF WITH THE
HEADLINE IN ONE PAPER, "THE AMERICANS PROTECT THEIR CONTIN-
ENTAL SHELF."
KUBISCH

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